

Naturvårdsverket 106 48 STOCKHOLM Date: 2016-02-19

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Statement on Consultation according to the Espoo Convention Protocol on the Maritime Spatial Plan for territorial sea and exclusive economic zone of the Republic of Latvia including Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment

SMHI welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Latvian Maritime Spatial Plan and focusses its comments on cross-border impacts.

The Latvian part of the Baltic Sea touches on the Eastern Gotland Basin where anoxic conditions in the deep areas have worsened in the last decades. SMHI considers it important that the implementation of the planning document may contribute to the further reduction of eutrophication in this area. In this respect, SMHI discourages from the development of aquaculture in the Latvian part of the Baltic Sea.

In the document, four Marine spatial development scenarios are outlined. SMHI supports the measures suggested in Scenario D, "Development within common space of the Baltic Sea region", where Baltic regional interests are promoted.

The Director Bodil Aarhus Andrae has decided on this matter prepared by Jörgen Öberg.

For SMHI

Bodil Aarhus Andrae Director Core Services

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